

S. 2511. An act to require the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere to carry out a program on coordinating the assessment and acquisition by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of unmanned maritime systems, to make available to the public data collected by the Administration using such systems, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the text of the bill (H.R. 3946) to name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Statesboro, Georgia, the "Ray Hendrix Veterans Clinic", and that the House has agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the title of the aforementioned bill.

#### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 12:26 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 315. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to distribute maternity care health professionals to health professional shortage areas identified as in need of maternity care health services.

H.R. 3946. An act to name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Statesboro, Georgia, the Ray Hendrix Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic.

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 3008. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of the George W. Bush Childhood Home, located at 1412 West Ohio Avenue, Midland, Texas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 5513. An act to provide for an exchange of lands with San Bernardino County, California, to enhance management of lands within the San Bernardino National Forest, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 6108. An act to provide for partnerships among State and local governments, regional entities, and the private sector to preserve, conserve, and enhance the visitor experience at nationally significant battlefields of the American Revolution, War of 1812, and Civil War, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 6118. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to annually designate at least one city in the United States as an "American World War II Heritage City", and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-7393. A communication from the Regulations Team Lead, Rural Utilities Service,

Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Buy American Requirement" (RIN0572-AC42) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 5, 2018; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7394. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Significant New Use Rules on Certain Chemical Substances; Withdrawal" (FRL No. 9986-43) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 7, 2018; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7395. A communication from the Board Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Margin and Capital Requirements for Covered Swap Entities" (RIN3052-AD28) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2018; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7396. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Pears Grown in Oregon and Washington; Increased Assessment Rate for Fresh Pears" (AMS-SC-18-0048) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 5, 2018; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7397. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Reynold N. Hoover, United States Army National Guard, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7398. A communication from the Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Registration of Privately Owned Motor Vehicles" (RIN0790-AK15) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 5, 2018; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7399. A communication from the Acting Director, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "2017 Fair Lending Report of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection"; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7400. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel for Operations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary, Administration, Department of Housing and Urban Development, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 5, 2018; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7401. A communication from the Acting Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Truth in Lending (Regulation Z)" (RIN3170-AA90) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2018; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7402. A communication from the Acting Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Consumer Leasing (Regulation M)" (RIN3170-AA89) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2018; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7403. A communication from the Acting Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Pro-

tection, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Appraisals for Higher-Priced Mortgage Loans Exemption Threshold" (RIN3170-AA91) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2018; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7404. A communication from the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Covered Investment Fund Research Reports" (RIN3235-AM24) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 5, 2018; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7405. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Indiana; Cross-State Air Pollution Rule" (FRL No. 9987-75-Region 5) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 7, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7406. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Relief from the Once-In-Always-In Condition for Excluding Part-time Employees from Making Elective Deferrals under Section 403(b) Plan" (Notice 2018-95) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 7, 2018; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7407. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Case-Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b, as amended, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties (List 2018-0203 - 2018-0206); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-7408. A communication from the Executive Secretary, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), transmitting, pursuant to law, two (2) reports relative to vacancies in the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 10, 2018; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-7409. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Listing of Drug Products That Have Been Withdrawn or Removed From the Market for Reasons of Safety or Effectiveness" ((RIN0910-AH35) (Docket No. FDA-2016-N-2462)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 10, 2018; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7410. A communication from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Labor's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7411. A communication from the Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018 and the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) for the report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7412. A communication from the Chief Financial Officer and Associate Administrator for Performance Management, Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administration's fiscal

year 2018 Agency Financial Report and the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) for the report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7413. A communication from the Chief Operating Officer, Millennium Challenge Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) for the Office of Inspector General's Semiannual Report for the period of April 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7414. A communication from the Acting Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

### PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petition or memorial was laid before the Senate and was referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-312. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Alaska urging the United States Congress to reauthorize the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

#### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 29

Whereas, in 1908, the United States Congress enacted 16 U.S.C. 500 (National Forest Receipts Program), which required 25 percent of annual income earned from activities on national forest land to be shared with states for distribution to cities and boroughs in which the land is located for the benefit of education and roads; and

Whereas, in 1986, changes in the approach to managing our national forests seriously curtailed the ability of forest communities to harvest forest products and resulted in steep declines in forest revenue paid to affected communities; and

Whereas, in the early 1990s, the United States Congress recognized that the decision to secure and retain land in federal ownership would deprive the communities in which the land is located of revenue otherwise received if the land were in private ownership; and

Whereas the enactment of P.L. 106-393, 16 U.S.C. 500 note (Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000), temporarily stabilized national forest revenue payments to forest communities and replaced much needed financial support for education and roads; and

Whereas the National Forest Service controls approximately 22,000,000 acres of land in the state; and

Whereas many of the state's rural communities are nestled in the Tongass National Forest and the Chugach National Forest; and

Whereas there continues to be little privately owned land in those forest communities on which to pursue economic development activities, and the communities therefore remain largely dependent on revenue generated from national forests; and

Whereas the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 expired on September 3, 2015, and has not been permanently reauthorized; and

Whereas the United States Congress temporarily extended the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 for federal fiscal years 2017 and 2018; and

Whereas education is one of the critical services supported by the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000; and

Whereas failure to permanently reauthorize the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 will have a devastating effect on many forest communities across America, especially communities in this state, and will severely affect the public education of students living in those forest communities; be it

*Resolved*, That the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests that the United States Congress pass and the President sign into law a long-term reauthorization of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Alaska State Legislature encourages the United States Congress to pass H.R. 2340 or S. 1027 to extend, or legislation to permanently reauthorize, the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000.

Copies of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Donald J. Trump, President of the United States; the Honorable Sonny Perdue, United States Secretary of Agriculture; the Honorable Betsy DeVos, United States Secretary of Education; the Honorable Lisa Murkowski, Chair of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Dan Sullivan, U.S. Senator, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress; and all other members of the 115th United States Congress.

### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. THUNE, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, without amendment:

S. 2369. A bill to authorize aboriginal subsistence whaling pursuant to the regulations of the International Whaling Commission, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115-425).

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:

Report to accompany S. 90, A bill to survey the gradient boundary along the Red River in the States of Oklahoma and Texas, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115-426).

Report to accompany S. 441, A bill to designate the Organ Mountains and other public land as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System in the State of New Mexico, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115-427).

Report to accompany S. 569, A bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to provide consistent and reliable authority for, and for the funding of, the Land and Water Conservation Fund to maximize the effectiveness of the Fund for future generations, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115-428).

Report to accompany S. 2160, A bill to establish a pilot program under which the Chief of the Forest Service may use alternative dispute resolution in lieu of judicial review of certain projects (Rept. No. 115-429).

By Mr. THUNE, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2773. A bill to improve the management of driftnet fishing (Rept. No. 115-430).

By Mr. RISCH, from the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship:

Report to accompany S. 3562, A bill to amend the Small Business Act to modify the method for prescribing size standards for business concerns (Rept. No. 115-431).

### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first

and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. CASSIDY:

S. 3737. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out the Medical Surgical Prime Vendor program using multiple prime vendors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 3738. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to prevent the inter partes review process for challenging patents from diminishing competition in the pharmaceutical industry and with respect to drug innovation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. SULLIVAN):

S. 3739. A bill to amend the Arctic Research and Policy Act of 1984 to modify the membership of the Arctic Research Commission, to establish an Arctic Executive Steering Committee, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. SULLIVAN):

S. 3740. A bill to establish a congressionally chartered seaway development corporation in the Arctic, consistent with customary international law, with the intention of uniting Arctic nations in a cooperative Arctic shipping union, where voluntary collective maritime shipping fees will help fund the infrastructural and environmental demands of safe and reliable shipping in the region; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. KING):

S. Res. 719. A resolution designating December 15, 2018, as "Wreaths Across America Day"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. Res. 720. A resolution expressing the condolences of the Senate and honoring the memory of the victims of the shooting at Mercy Hospital and Medical Center in Chicago, Illinois, on November 19, 2018; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. TOOMEY):

S. Res. 721. A resolution designating the week beginning on October 21, 2018, as "National Chemistry Week"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. HOEVEN (for himself, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. TESTER, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. PETERS):

S. Res. 722. A resolution designating October 26, 2018, as "Day of the Deployed"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. REED (for himself and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. Res. 723. A resolution congratulating the American College of Emergency Physicians on its 50th anniversary; considered and agreed to.

### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 352

At the request of Mr. CORKER, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr.